Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The shortfall in Plan Expenditure, in the case Of the above mentioned States, has occured largely due to shortfall in the States own resources estmiated originally.

Purchase of Torpedoes for the Indian Navy from AEG of West Germany

1684. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) wheher the Indian Navy had purchased torpedoes for its submarines from AEG Of West Germany during the last three years;

(b) if so, the approximate value of the sale; and

(c) whether any commission agents, middlemen or intermediaries were used to clinch or further the sale, and so, the names of the persons involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) A contract was signed with Mls AEG of West Germany in December 1981 for the supply of Torpedoes to the Indian Navy. These Torpedoes were delivered during; the period May 1985 to March 1987. Further details cannot be divulged in the national interest.

Co) All negotiations leading to the finalisation of the contract were held directly with the suppliers, *viz.* M/s. AEG,

Shortage of **essential drugs in the Capital**

1685. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a 'fact that there is an acute shortage of essential drugs in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of the drugs which are not available;

(d) what are the reasons thereof; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH **AND** FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (e) As per the information collected from the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals the shortaaes report for the month of March, 1989 received by them from the Drug Con:roller, Delhi Administration and Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, (North Zone) reports shortage in Delhi of 13 brands for which therapeutic equivalents are not available and 12 brands for which therapeutic equivalents are available. Based on the reports, the concerned companies are being instructed telegraphically to rush the stocks and intimate the reasons for shortages and the remedial measures taken to avoid such shortages.

Banning of **advertisements of Tan Masala' on TV/Radio**

1686. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government propose to ban 'Pan Masala' advertisements on TV[Radio immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): The Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi is of the opinion that unless carefully controlled studies are done, it will be • extremely difficult to establish the carcinogenic effect of pan masala. However, keeping in view the increasing use of these products experts have recommended that advertisement of pan masala be discouraged.